



AFRL ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (ESOH) NEWSLETTER MAY 2000

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Remember to send any questions, topic ideas or
suggestions for this newsletter to Mary Shelly - Phone:
59000

Email: mary.shelly@afrl.af.mil

Safety related issues: SSgt Gerald Mayfield - Phone:
50311 x235

Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program (ECAMP) WRAPS UP

First of all, a big *congratulations* and *thank you* go out to everyone for the Herculean effort you put forth in preparing for the ECAMP Assessment that took place on April 10th -14th, 2000. Once again, you did a superb job! Every third year an "external" ECAMP is performed on base, as was the case this year. The ECAMP was managed by HQ AFMC/CE (Wright-Patterson) and comprised of environmental experts from AFMC/CE, Edwards, Robins, Hill, Tinker, Eglin, and Kelly Air Force Bases, and Argonne National Laboratory. Having folks from other bases inspect our operations provides an opportunity for a fresh set of eyes to gauge how we conduct our environmental programs at Wright-Patt. It enables us to meet our counterparts from other bases, share ideas for improvements, and exchange lessons learned.

One of the best parts of ECAMP is the opportunity to recognize our co-workers who have done an outstanding job all year long in the area of Environmental Management. Two individuals in AFRL/PR were personally recognized during ECAMP and received certificates of appreciation for their superior efforts:

Mr. Michael Schumacher, AFRL/PRSL - "for excellent awareness of air permit requirements, excellent organization of compliance data, and effective interactions with EM and source managers."

Mr. Dale Shouse, AFRL/PRSE - "for being very knowledgeable of air permit conditions and performing excellent record keeping."

Congratulations to both of you!!



We also want to applaud what we believe to be:

The "Most Improved" Directorate: AFRL/HE

Motivated and spurred on by their Unit Environmental Coordinator, Keith Vossler, the Human Effectiveness Directorate has made tremendous progress in their facility's hazardous materials and waste management practices in the last year. AFRL/HE has established an ESOH Council that meets monthly and has demonstrated just what a team effort can accomplish. They scoured their facilities for abandoned or expired hazmat, much of which had been squirreled away for years. They then inventoried, barcoded, properly segregated, and stored the hazmat or turned it in for proper disposal. Much of the hazmat was unusable, resulting in a total turn-in of 3723 pounds since Aug 99! HE has also emphasized training in the last year, sending their people to ESOH Awareness, Hazcom, Bloodborne Pathogen, and RCRA Hazwaste training as appropriate. They have developed Hazcom and Chemical Hygiene Plans, updated spill plans, researched MSDSs to ensure availability, and the list goes on! **Applause to AFRL/HE - keep up the fantastic work!!**

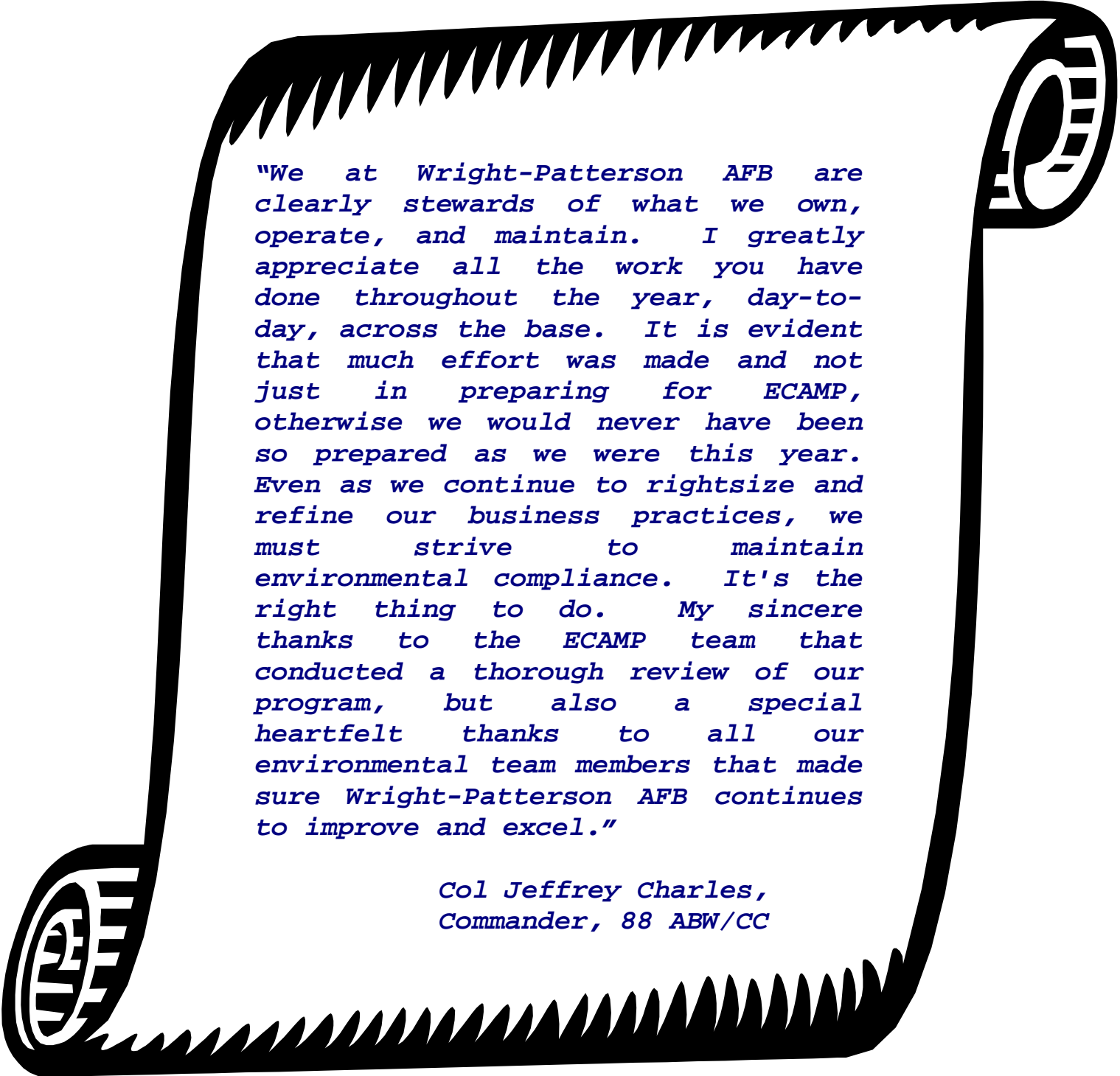
After every ECAMP there is an "outbrief" where the assessment team reports their preliminary results to the Base Commander and Environmental Management. This year's outbrief was held on 19 Apr 00 and presented by Mike Trimeloni, the ECAMP Team Leader from AFMC/CEVO. While there were 27 "Major" findings and 27 "Minor" findings* across the base this year, Mr. Trimeloni praised Wright-Patt for the significant improvements made since the last external ECAMP in 1997 when there were 90 major and 34 minor findings in comparison. Obviously much work has gone into fixing past problems and improving environmental quality in the last three years!

*Definition of ECAMP Findings:

- 1) Significant: Immediate threat to life, safety, environment, or mission - e.g. leaking hazardous waste drum (none found for WPAFB!)
- 2) Major: Out of compliance with federal, state, or local law - e.g. exceeding 55 gallons hazardous waste at Initial Accumulation Point
- 3) Minor: Administrative in nature - e.g. site-specific spill plan not posted
- 4) Positive: Recognition of a job well done beyond the call - e.g. instituting pollution prevention devices not mandated by law

The ECAMP assessment results are currently being "validated" for their accuracy; each organization will be informed of any findings they received. We will discuss the ECAMP findings in future newsletters.

To conclude the ECAMP outbrief, 88 ABW Commander Col Jeffrey Charles expressed his sincere appreciation to everyone on base for making the ECAMP a success. I thought Col Charles' comments eloquently captured the goal of the ECAMP program and conveyed just how much your efforts are recognized, so I wanted to share his comments with all of you at AFRL:



"We at Wright-Patterson AFB are clearly stewards of what we own, operate, and maintain. I greatly appreciate all the work you have done throughout the year, day-to-day, across the base. It is evident that much effort was made and not just in preparing for ECAMP, otherwise we would never have been so prepared as we were this year. Even as we continue to rightsize and refine our business practices, we must strive to maintain environmental compliance. It's the right thing to do. My sincere thanks to the ECAMP team that conducted a thorough review of our program, but also a special heartfelt thanks to all our environmental team members that made sure Wright-Patterson AFB continues to improve and excel."

Col Jeffrey Charles,
Commander, 88 ABW/CC



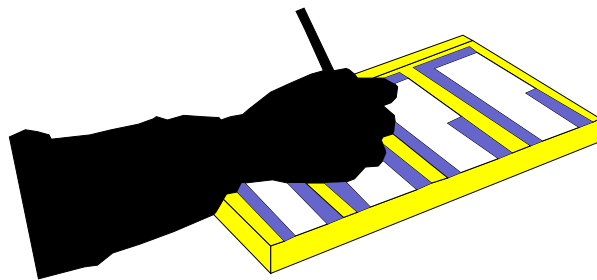
Safety Training

Supervisors are key to any safety training program. They provide each employee (military and civilian) with job safety, fire prevention, and health training as required by the Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Program (AFOSH). For administrative areas, safety training could be as simple as handing out pamphlets, magazines, posters and newsletters. For industrial areas, safety training might cover workplace specific or hazard specific areas. Sometimes you may have to be creative and inventive when conducting training, but the bottom line is getting the message to your personnel in the workplace. Supervisors will also provide safety training to newly assigned individuals. Whichever the case, safety training is one tool used to inform personnel and make them aware of the potential hazards in the workplace.



The **AF Form 55, Employee Safety and Health Record**, is to be used as a guide and documentation record for general and specialized job safety, fire prevention, and health training for both military and civilian personnel. Commanders, functional managers, supervisors, and staff members, whose work environment is primarily a low risk, administrative areas do not require documentation on the AF Form 55. However, **everyone** should document all safety, health, and environmental training, including ESOH Awareness Training, on AF FORM 55s.

Supervisors must prepare a comprehensive job safety training outline covering the mandatory 23 items contained on the Form 55. This training is to be provided initially, upon assignment, or when there is a change in equipment, processes, substances, or new work conditions. This initial training also applies to workers who are part-time, temporary, or detailed to the organization. When the training is completed the Form 55 should be completed, annotating the type of training, date provided, and signed by both worker and supervisor. The "remarks" section should be used to summarize the type of training covered.



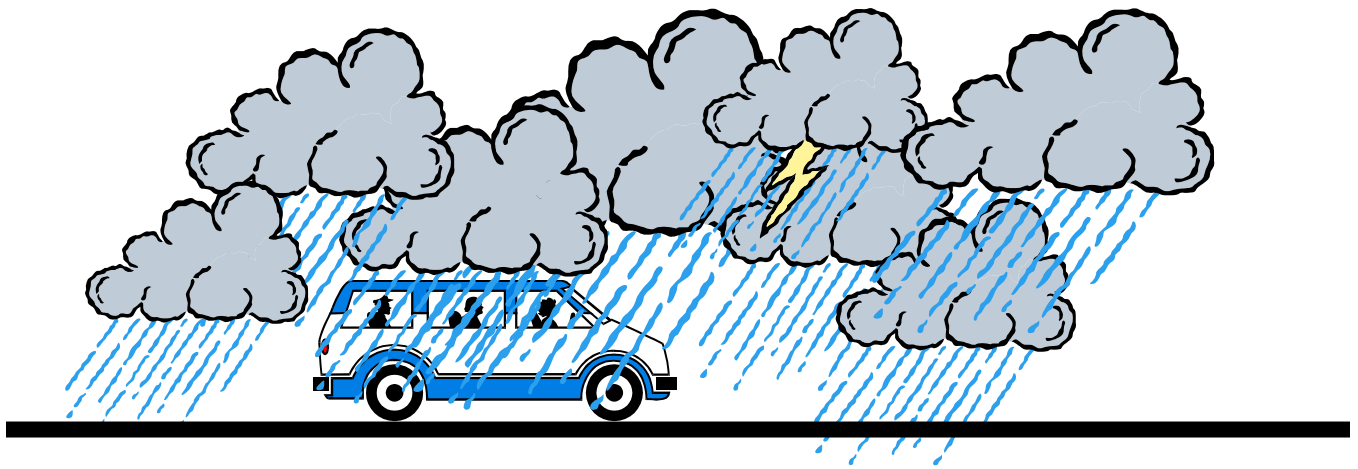
AFMC Forms 315 and 316

Supervisors should develop inspection checklists as needed and conduct safety inspections of administrative areas quarterly and industrial/laboratory areas monthly. The inspection results should be documented on the **AFMC Form 315, Supervisor Safety Inspection Record**, and maintained for one year. Safety meetings should also be conducted at the frequencies specified above for inspections. The meetings will be documented on the **AFMC Form 316, Supervisor Safety Meeting Minutes**, and maintained for one year. These meetings may be conducted separately or with other regular group meetings.

For more information on safety training requirements, contact your Unit Safety Monitor or the Safety Office at 40888.

Visit ASC/SEG's Safety Home Page at:

<http://www.asc.wpafb.af.mil/asc/safety/index.html>



Spring Showers bring driving in the Rain

Losing control of your car on wet pavement is a frightening experience. Unfortunately, it can happen unless you take preventive measures. You can prevent skids by driving slowly and carefully, especially on curves. Steer and brake with a light touch. When you need to stop or slow, do not brake hard or lock the wheels and risk a skid. Maintain mild pressure on the brake pedal.

If you do find yourself in a skid, remain calm, ease your foot off the gas, and carefully steer in the direction you want the front of the car to go. For cars without anti-lock brakes, avoid using your brakes. This procedure, known as "steering into the skid," will bring the back end of your car in line with the front. If your car has ABS, brake firmly as you "steer into the skid."

While skids on wet pavement may be frightening, hydroplaning is completely nerve-wracking. **Hydroplaning** happens when the water in front of your tires builds up faster than your car's weight can push it out of the way. The water pressure causes your car to rise up and slide on a thin layer of water between your tires and the road. At this point, your car can be completely out of contact with the road, and you are in danger of skidding or drifting out of your lane.

To avoid hydroplaning, keep your tires properly inflated, maintain good tread on your tires and replace them when necessary, slow down when roads are wet, and stay away from puddles. Try to drive in the tire tracks left by the cars in front of you.

If you find yourself hydroplaning, do not brake or turn suddenly. This could throw your car into a skid. Ease your foot off the gas until the car slows and you can feel the road again. If you need to brake, do it gently with light pumping actions. If your car has anti-lock brakes, then brake normally; the car's computer will mimic a pumping action, when necessary. *A defensive driver adjusts his or her speed to the wet road conditions in time to avoid having to use any of these measures!*



UPCOMING ESOH TRAINING and OPPORTUNITIES:

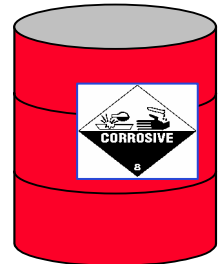
CHOLESTEROL SCREENING BROUGHT TO AFRL

The Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) will be coming to AFRL to provide any interested military or civilian employee with cholesterol testing. Those interested must schedule with Mary Shelly, 59000 or mary.shelly@afrl.af.mil. Testing will be performed on 27 June beginning at 8:00 and results will be provided on 7 July, 9:00. All are encouraged to take advantage of this free screening as it provides a good baseline for determining your cardiac risk factors. Cardiac disease is still the number one cause of death to both men AND women in the U.S. A presentation covering what is considered "normal" cholesterol and how to lower cholesterol levels will be presented with the results. Individuals may also make a one-on-one appointment with a dietitian.



RCRA HAZMAT/HAZWASTE TRAINING:

Initial Training: 18 May, 20 Jul, and 21 Sep 00
Annual Refresher Training: 16 May, 20 Jun 00
(Schedule both with Mary Shelly, 59000)



OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT (ORM) TRAINING

There is a half-day level II course offered on 27 April, 11 May and 1 Jun.
Level II training is required for supervisors and managers per WPAFBI 91-202.
Supervisors are to subsequently provide their employees with "Level III" Awareness Level training. An ORM video is available for loan from the safety office to assist supervisors with the Level III training.

To schedule, contact Chuck Swankhaus at 43390

ESOH AWARENESS TRAINING:

11 July, 10 Oct 00 – schedule with Public Health at 52515

This course is highly recommended for all employees and contractors. We also go "on the road". We will present this course at your organization.



Air Force Form 813s - Request for Environmental Impact Analysis

Don't forget to submit your AF Form 813s to Mary Shelly at AFRL/MLOF. For more information on AF Form 813s, see Environmental Management's Home Page:

http://www.abwem.wpafb.af.mil/em/emp/impact_analysis/impact.htm

Contact Mary Shelly at 59000 or via base e-mail to get electronic instructions for completing the AF Form 813 for both on-base and off-base work.

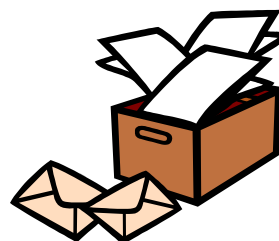
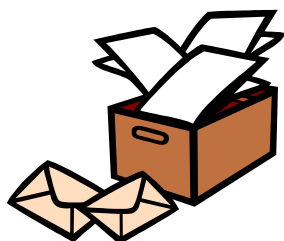
New ESOH Training Videos Available:

These videos are on a wide variety of ESOH topics and are a great resource for supplementing training such as supervisor safety training.

Contact Mary Shelly at 59000 for an electronic list of video titles to choose from.

Here are some examples:

Electrical Safety in the Lab	Personal Protective Equipment (several videos available on various types of PPE)
Handling Compressed Gas Cylinders	Safety Showers and Eyewashes
Laboratory Ergonomics	Supervisor's Criminal Liabilities for Safety
Laboratory Hoods	Supervisor's Legal Responsibilities for Safety
Laser Safety Training	Wellness Series: Cholesterol, Fitness, Nutrition, Stress Management
Material Safety Data Sheets	What Hearing Loss Sounds Like



What can go in the Blue RECYCLING Bin?

white typing paper
white writing paper
blueprint paper
white scratch paper
index cards
computer printout paper
shredded paper
post-it notes
envelopes including plastic windows
white inserts from junk mail

outdated manuals
white photocopy paper
file folders
newspaper
magazines
books
colored paper